

1659
To the Supreme Authority, The *Parliament* of the
Common-wealth of *England*.

WHEREAS a Bill is now preparing, and ready to pass into an Act for Indempnity and General pardon; lest this Honourable Assembly should be surprized in pardoning those Rights and just Duties belonging to the Commonwealth (which as yet they have had no due knowledge or Cognizance of) touching many fraudulent practises and connivances in reference to the severall Accounts of the Publique; and also many Concealments and Detensions of their just Rights, whereof much hath already been voluntarily confessed by the persons, in whose hands the same are remaining, before certain Commissioners who sate by Act (of Parliament, or so reputed) of the 7th of *October* 1653. not yet received: And also many other voluntary Confessions & Discoveries by Delinquents of their own Estates & Debts not compounded for, nor pardoned, amounting to many thousand pounds: besides what would be further confessed, if time were given: and also what hath been already adjudged (upon Oath and Evidence on Record) before the said Commissioners to be due and belonging to the Commonwealth; And also above two hundred thousand pounds since adjudged (likewise upon Oath and Evidence on Record) by the late Commissioners, who sate by Commission under the Great Seal of the 23th. of *May* 1656. and accordingly Certified under their Hands and Seals to the late Lords Commissioners, of the Treasury: And also besides many hundred thousand pounds entred in the Registers Office (for a great part whereof Bonds have been given, and remain with the said Register for prosecuting and making good the same): And many other considerable Discoveries, since come to his knowledg.

And forasmuch also as the said Powers so constituted, never were, nor are in force to levie and receive, the aforesaid Monies, and other things so already Confessed and Adjudged; whereby the Commonwealth will not be damnified only, but also the respective Discoverers (who for the most part have great debts due from the Publique, and having been at extraordinary charges for recovering the same out of such Discoveries as they should make of unjust Concealments) utterly ruin'd, without some effectual and speedy course to be taken therein. *It is therefore* humbly offered and prayed (as in duty to the Publique) that the Premises (which have in part been communicated to some of the Members of this Honourable House, and by them well approved of) may be excepted in the said Act of Indempnity, and put in due execution for recovering the just Rights of the Commonwealth by a special Act to that purpose: (in order to which certain Proposals are already drawn up to be humbly presented to this Honourable Assembly) The benefit whereof will much redound to the publique advantage, and advance the Commonwealth's Treasury and Revenue many hundred thousand pounds.

All which being humbly Prayed, is Offered to be made out (from six years experience) by him, in whose Custody most of the Evidences remain,

Who is Your Honours Humble Servant,
Well-affected to the Publique.

Ferdinando Parkhurst,

Register to the Late Commissioners
for Discoveries above mentioned.